

**REGULAR PIQUA CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Piqua City Commission met at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street, Piqua, Ohio.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Pearson and Commissioners Grissom, Lee, and Vetter were present. A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to excuse Commissioner Hinds and seconded by Commissioner Lee. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:31

A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to adjourn to Executive Session and seconded by Commissioner Lee. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Pearson and Commissioners Grissom, Lee, and Vetter were present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

To consider the purchase or sale of property for public purposes.

ADJOURNMENT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:59

A motion was made by Commissioner Vetter to adjourn from Executive Session and seconded by Commissioner Grissom. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION—GOLF COURSE / PATRICK KIRKLAND

Patrick's presentation consisted of a background on himself, the changes made, and his future goals for the golf course. Patrick noted that special benefits were added to members, additional golf carts were added, and he hopes to add more food options and a golf simulator.

REGULAR PIQUA CITY COMMISSION MEETING

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes from the March 21, 2023, Regular Commission Meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. R-53-23

A resolution appointing a member to the golf advisory board.

RESOLUTION NO. R-54-23

A resolution appointing a member to the utility board.

RESOLUTION NO. R-58-23

A resolution appointing a member to the park board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee to approve the Consent Agenda and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. Roll call was taken and all were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Pearson named the members that were appointed to each board and thanked them for serving.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. O-1-23 (3rd Reading)

An ordinance establishing the manner in which ordinances will be available for public inspection.

Introduction: Amy Welker said this resolution refers to the official publication of legislation on the City's website. Currently, legislation is published on the City's website page, and this resolution will make it the standard method.

Commissioners Comments: None

Public Comment: None

A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to approve Ordinance No. O-1-23 and seconded by Commissioner Grissom. Roll call was taken and all approved and Ordinance No. O-1-23 was approved.

ORDINANCE NO. O-2-23 (2nd Reading)

An ordinance to repeal Title XV: Land Usage of the Code of Ordinances and adopt Title XV: Development Code, in association with the Code Piqua project.

Introduction: Kyrsten French spoke on behalf of this ordinance stating this is a unified development code. Kyrsten French noted that the first reading of this ordinance was March 21st, and the 3rd and final reading will be April 18, 2023.

Kyrsten French said that she has had a conversation with Mike Sherry and Josh Blackshire who both suggested that quarries are added to the list of restricted uses in the City of Piqua. Kyrsten asked for direction from the commissioners.

Commissioners Comments: Kris Lee said he would like to see quarries as a restricted item in the new code.

Public Comment: None

ORDINANCE O-3-23 (2nd Reading)

An ordinance to adopt revisions of Chapter 90: Animals to permit backyard chickens.

Introduction: Kyrsten French provided a handout showing how Piqua is divided by different neighborhoods. The list was separated into those with HOA's and those without. Kyrsten said the HOA could restrict a neighborhood from having chickens regardless of what the code says. Neighborhoods that have alleys probably do not fall under an HOA and would allow for chickens.

Kyrsten gave a brief overview of the rules again saying there is a limit of 6 chickens, no roosters and a resident would be required to obtain a permit prior to having them.

Commissioners Comments: Commissioner Grissom asked how a person would find out what subdivision they live in because he has received a lot of questions. Kyrsten responded that they could find out by looking on a tax map.

Commissioner Lee said that he hears from residents that are in areas that would allow chickens and they are in favor of allowing it. Commissioner Lee said he feels residents who want them should have the opportunity.

Commissioner Vetter said he has received the opposite results. Out of the 50 or so residents he has heard from, only 2 are in favor of allowing chickens.

Commissioner Grissom mentioned that some people saw that the City of Piqua was considering chickens on TV, and he wants everyone to be aware that it has not been approved yet.

Public Comment: Gary Koenig said this could become a civil action and a neighbor would be able to sue another neighbor over chickens. He also pointed out that an odor issue would be reported to the Department of Health and other issues can be reported to the development department.

Tom Homan said if this ordinance passed, he would hope that neighbors would discuss with their neighbors before jumping into any legal action.

Pamela Hawes believes she lives in a neighborhood that she'd be allowed to have them. Pamela talked to her neighbors, and they don't care. Pamela said she always takes care of her yard.

Paige Stemen has done a lot of research on chickens, even calling the Ohio Department of Agriculture and talking to Dr. Shaw. Paige reported that there have been very few infectious diseases due to chickens. Paige wants the ability to have a healthy lifestyle.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. R-55-23

A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement with the Piqua Youth Soccer Association

Introduction: Amy Welker noted that the city has leased the soccer fields to Piqua Youth Soccer Association for over 40 years. This resolution is a continuation for a 3-year term.

Commissioners Comments: Commissioner Grissom said he appreciates what the PYSA does for the youth in this community.

Public Comment: Kenny Deal thanked all the employees that have worked with him over the past few years. He is appreciative that Amy Welker has worked through their concerns with the soccer lease. He also mentioned that he has been working with Chris Boeke. Kenny said last year the city contracted the mowing out and this year he is really pleased with the straight lines and how professional it looks.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vetter to approve Resolution No. R-55-23 and seconded by Commissioner Lee. All approved and Resolution No. R-55-23 was approved.

RESOLUTION NO. R-56-23

A resolution awarding a contract for the purchase of transformers for the Power System

Introduction: Ed Krieger said that there has been a supply issue and a rise in cost. Nothing is more critical than transformers, which are the small gray boxes you see on the poles. When the city went out to bid, the prices were 2-3 times higher than what they had been in the past. Ermco, a supplier that we used in the past, reached out to the city offering production slots at acceptable prices and delivery times so Ed is asking to award a contract to Ermco. The energy board has approved this purchase.

Commissioners Comments: Commissioner Grissom said he is proud of the energy board. Commissioner Vetter reminded everyone that the energy board meetings are open to the public and the sessions are very informative.

Public Comment: Thomas Homan asked how many transformers we have in inventory. Ed Krieger replied that is a big question because of all the sizes and types we keep on hand. Ed Krieger pointed out that what we have is adequate to serve our customers. Thomas Homan questioned if the city could possibly be in trouble without approval of this purchase. Ed Krieger replied the transformers are needed for a new housing development being established in Piqua and unanticipated storms.

Paige Stemen asked what the level of deterioration is, and Ed Krieger replied that transformers have a long-life expectancy but there are other things to consider such as storms. Paige asked if the city has a backup plan and mentioned that she was aware of the solar fields. Ed Krieger replied that this is the

reason he comes to commission with this request every year. He needs to have inventory for new businesses, storms, failures. Paige Steman said she commends him for that.

A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to approve Resolution No. R-56-23 and seconded by Commissioner Vetter. All approved and Resolution No. R-56-23 was approved.

RESOLUTION NO. R-57-23

A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Cloudpoint Geospatial for GIS utility migration and data cleanup.

Introduction: Kelley Allen explained that this request is to migrate the data from the Geometric Network schema to the ESRI Enterprise environment. Kelley said most of the Underground Utility data is in the Geometric Network and it has reached the end of life and will no longer receive updates.

Commissioners Comments: Mayor Pearson confirmed that this agreement will enhance the new program we've built. Commissioner Vetter asked if this will be able to help with where people are leaving trash cans on the street and Amy Welker replied that the trash cans would be part of NISC. Commissioner Grissom asked when the public would have access to the GIS and Kelley said once we move everything into this new platform it opens all the public facing things that we want to show.

Public Comment: Thomas Homan asked if the city anticipates companies looking to move to Piqua will utilize this, and Kelley responded that she absolutely sees this.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee to approve Resolution No. R-57-23 and seconded by Commissioner Grissom. All approved and Resolution No. R-57-23 was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Koenig asked for the status of the wet spots on the hydraulic canal and an update on swift run. Paul Oberdorfer replied that repairs were done to the canal and when we're certain that it is okay, we'll put the gates back up. Kyrsten French responded that she is working with ODNR to see if swift run can be broken away. Kyrsten mentioned that it is a slow process, but we're focused on swift run lake. Gary Koenig suggests using life cycle cost analysis opposed to first cost. Commissioner Vetter said at least we are not being pressed for a date which is helpful. Kyrsten said there is a grant, which can be used toward this project, and it does have a timeline.

Thomas Homan asked for Kyrsten French's contact information to provide updates to the Utility Board. Mr. Homan also asked citizens to keep an eye out for bikers now that the weather is getting nicer.

Kyrsten French represented Bike Piqua and announced a Spring membership drive on April 20th at Crooked Handle. Kyrsten mentioned that paying the membership fee allows you to vote on a mural. Bike Piqua is the only chapter in the Miami Valley. Commissioner Grissom questioned if it was a ride and Kyrsten French said its more of a party.

Tyler Fonzie asked if there were plans to fill the potholes. Paul Oberdorfer responded that the hot mix operation does not open until the middle of April. Cold mix is only for emergency use.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Paul Oberdorfer gave a reminder to file your taxes. This year is an interim year for RITA, Regional Income Tax Agency, and it is going well. Paul also encouraged citizens to take advantage of the amnesty offered where fees and penalties are waived.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENT

Commissioner Lee – No Comments

Commissioner Vetter announced that a cleanup effort is planned for May 11 at Pittsenbarger Park. Amy Welker added that Buckeye Insurance is sponsoring this and allowing their employees to have a day out of the office to provide the cleanup. Amy said that Crane Pumps is allowing their employees to do the same at Mote Park.

Commissioner Vetter said that other parks may need help too. Bob Graeser will be organizing events for Arbor Day in late April.

Commissioner Grissom asked that citizens watch out for kids, as the warmer weather is here. Commissioner Grissom said that his family has had some difficulties over the past few weeks and his neighbors came out to check on them. He just wanted to thank everyone and appreciates how Piqua feels like a sense of community. That's why he loves Piqua.

Mayor Pearson appreciates all the volunteers and thinks all the Boards are full. Amy Welker spoke up and said there still needs to be a replacement for her position on the Miami County Board of Health.

Mayor Pearson also wanted to thank employees for assisting in the great lighting in the Commission Chambers. Mayor Pearson announced Dancing with the Stars put on by the Arts Council this Saturday at Romer's, Taste of the Arts May 12th and the Farmers Market May 25th. Lastly Mayor Pearson encouraged everyone to sign up for Smart Hub.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:10 pm

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee to adjourn, and Commissioner Grissom seconded the motion. All approved and the motion was carried unanimously.